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# Times.10

Your Magazine of Choice

September 2001, Vol. 9 Number 1

From  
The  
Hartt

Page 7

Fun  
Pg's 4, 13, 32

Identity  
Pg's 5, 14, 20

Health  
Pg's 6, 12, 24



The HIV Network of Edmonton Society

## Volunteers Wanted, Needed & LOVED !!!

**Volunteers are needed for short-term &  
long-term appointments**



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**VOLUNTEERS**  
are needed before  
the Walk & on  
September 23rd



- ❖ Registration table, security, marshalling, rest stops, food & beverage help required
- ❖ Postering & recruitment booth volunteers needed before the Walk

### General Office Assistance!

- Word processing & data entry
- Reception, clipping HIV/AIDS articles
- Photocopying, filing, making red ribbons & assisting in mail-outs

### Committee & Board Members

- AIDS Awareness Week Committee
- the Black & White Affair
- HIV/AIDS Walk & Red Ribbon Run
- New committees & events

From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life. - Arthur Ashe

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Deborah J. at  
Phone: 488-5742 ext. 241 Email: [mail@hivedmonton.com](mailto:mail@hivedmonton.com) or visit our  
Website: [www.hivedmonton.com](http://www.hivedmonton.com)

## Times .10

Your Magazine of Choice

Vol. 9 Number 1  
September 2001  
10121-124 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta, T5N 1P5  
[www.times10.org](http://www.times10.org)

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### WHY THERAPY? What difference does it make?

#### Therapy can:

- create a private, safe place to heal emotional issues
- diminish the impact of old stuff
- challenge beliefs that maintain patterns

#### What happens in sessions?

- Mostly we talk about:
- am I crazy ?
- are we awful parents?
- why am I so addicted, depressed, anxious?
- why cant I forget about, just get over ....
- am I a lesbian, gay, bi, transgendered?
- why do I keep ending relationships with violence ?
- how can I survive my teenagers?
- am I normal ?

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REGISTERED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

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**The Front Page**  
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**Times .10 Magazine**  
**Edmonton, Alberta, Canada**  
**Times .10 Publications**  
**Society in Alberta**  
**September 2001**  
**Vol. 9 # 1**

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# We're Just Getting Started

Well here we are, with only some 300-odd plus days to go. But still, for one more issue, for one more column, let's let it all be about them. Them who, I who you ask? I'll tell you who. Ron, Emperor 25, the Silver Towelled Jubilee Impresario (also Master of Ceremonies Ultima of all Alberta, who has MC'ed 25 out of 25



Edmonton Coronations). And then there is Mr. Vera, the Silver Feathered Jubilee Swan, (also Emperor 6, 17 and 20 of Edmonton, the girl that keeps on going).

August is always COURT MONTH in Edmonton. For those that play the game of Court and for those who simply enjoy to watch, August sees the candidates campaign (that was us and god weren't we pretty?!). It also sees the wonderful parties, which prove year after year that Edmontonians are, regardless of Reginan claims to the contrary, the WILDEST PART CHILDREN IN CANADA. For instance, there was a candidate show (or four), and we were out and we looked lovely and we were Edmonton! And you know what, those candidate shows started off with a College Scholarship Show that gave away 3 scholarships of \$750, so congrats Chris, Sue, and Geoff best of luck in school.

Then you know, before our Impresario

and Swan knew what was happening, Coronation Festival 2001 was here. And voting was done, the weakest links were all established, and we, the candidates, could be as nasty or as tragic or as fab-tab-ulous as we wanted (cuz hey, the voting's done!) The Ball program almost actually made it into the printer on the day it was supposed to. And then we were there. The In-Town Show at Secrets, which was the best of the best of the local talent performing the best of the best of their numbers (going to prove, you just can't stop the music!) And then there was the Out of Town Show.

If you weren't there, you just won't get it. Three bars and absolutely wonderful entertainment at all three. Building out of a successful Friday Fringe show and then becoming a party to end all parties. That is, until Saturday August 25, 2001. (By the way, if anyone knows where those 2 pretty boys from Montana went, be sure to let someone know!) At 6:25:25, the ball actually started. And not only was it AHEAD of schedule, it was entertainment above and beyond the call of duty (and the \$1000 in Entrance Awards). Money and awards were given out, yes, which of course is all this Game of Court is about: giving money to charity. But, while that money was being raised and donated, wonderful shows happened. And the two people who brought 2000-2001, the 25th House Under Millicent, into success were stepping down and we were stepping up. And so here we are. Victory Brunch is long over, and I guess it's all about us now. Which, as we've made clear, is about two things: having fun and raising money for charity (not necessarily in that order). We have no time for politics or BS (beyond what's absolutely necessary). We want this year to be as AMAZING for you as we want it to be for us. So don't go away - we're just getting started.

And so we shall be  
Their Most Imperial and Sovereign Majesties

Emperor 26 of Edmonton, the Tragic Rhinestone Emperor, Rob &

Empress 26 of Edmonton, the Hopeless Diamond Empress, Ida Claire  
xoxo

# Coronation 2001 - Out of Town Show



Pictures viewable at [www.times10.org](http://www.times10.org) in the Archives Section

# Global Sex

You've packed your bags for that long-awaited voyage to an unfamiliar country. Is it Mexico? Asia? Europe? Regardless of your ultimate destination, your trip promises to present endless amounts of gorgeous weather, mouth-watering food and, of course, hot foreign men.



"Global Sex" is something that we all yearn to try whether one travels for business or pleasure. Finding an attractive local man strolling along the beach on a moonlit night to romance is not only the perfect compliment to a dream vacation, but also the source of countless stories for our friends. However, it is also the potential source of the perfect nightmare, catching an STD in a foreign country and requiring

**Pride Video**

*I may look innocent...*

10121-124 Street

treatment and/or hospitalization.

HIV, AIDS, and other STDs are everywhere in the world. No such place on earth is completely "disease-free." When you are travelling away from home, here are some key points to remember:

a. "HIV" and "AIDS" have become international words in many languages. Use them specifically when asking questions about sexual health and practice with your partner. And remember to use very simple, easy-to-understand words.

b. Hepatitis A and B immunizations are a must for all sexually active members of the any community. Although some people find immunizations troublesome and time-consuming, these are minor annoyances as compared to the effects of hepatitis itself. Talk to your doctor about what further immunizations are needed, especially if your travel plans include stopovers in Third World countries.

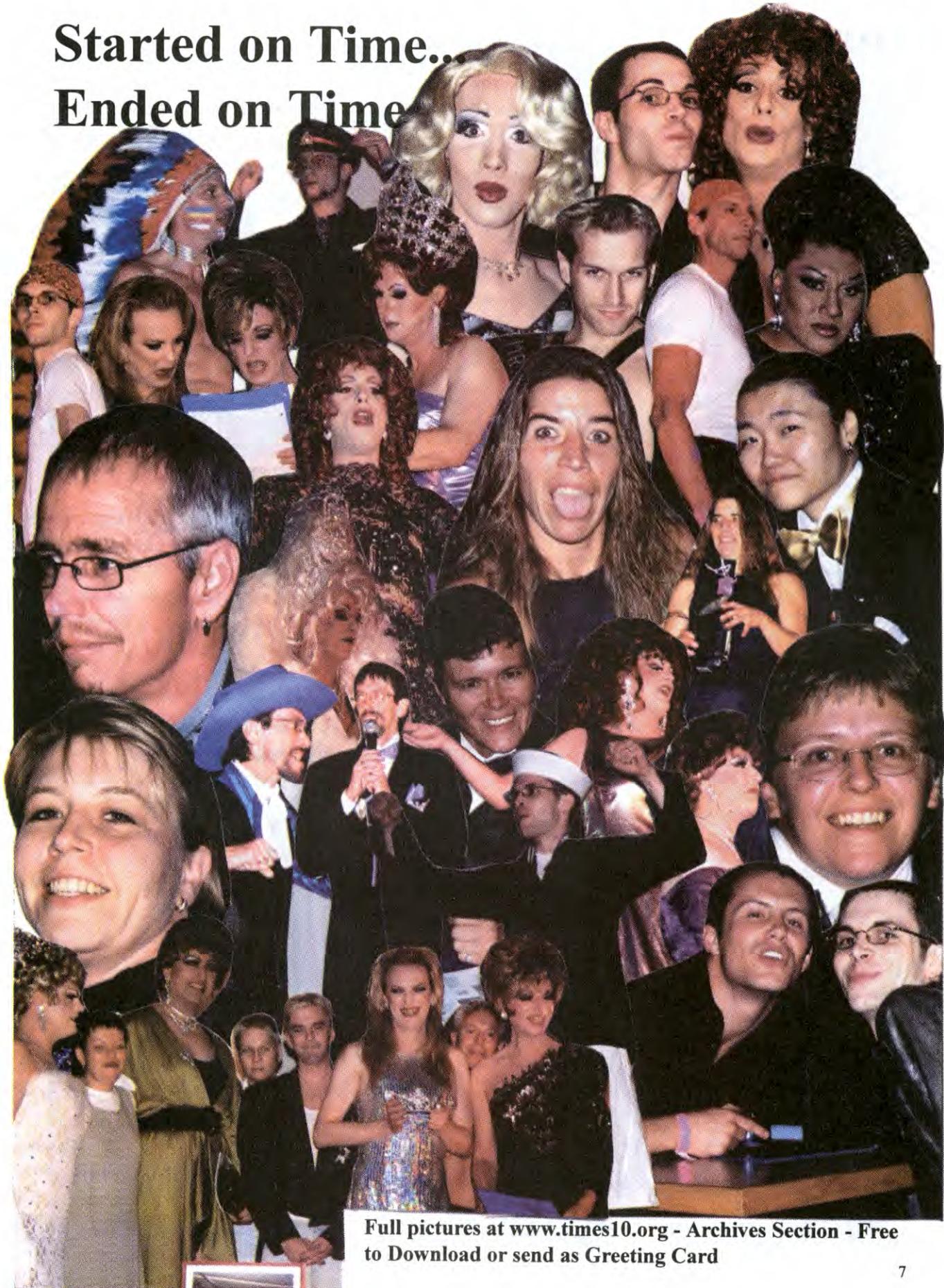
c. Condoms are NOT everywhere (although they should be). In addition,

certain countries have poorly manufactured condoms, and, many are made to fit the locals and not the tourists. Therefore, always travel with your own condoms and lubricant.

d. Laws about gay sex are different in every country. You can search the Internet to help determine what laws are applicable in the country you are planning to visit. Gay travel guides, available at the bookstores and GLCCE, are worthwhile investments before planning your trip to unfamiliar countries.

The [Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men's Health Centre \(Australia\)](#) has an excellent Website regarding general health and safe sex practices of gay men and lesbians when travelling overseas. You can visit their website at: <http://www.vicaids.asn.au/>. For questions, comments, or to share an experience among members of the community, please contact GMOC at (780) 488-0564, or, you can e-mail me at: [gmoc@interbaun.com](mailto:gmoc@interbaun.com). Enjoy your Vacation!!!

## Started on Time.. Ended on Time



Full pictures at [www.times10.org](http://www.times10.org) - Archives Section - Free to Download or send as Greeting Card

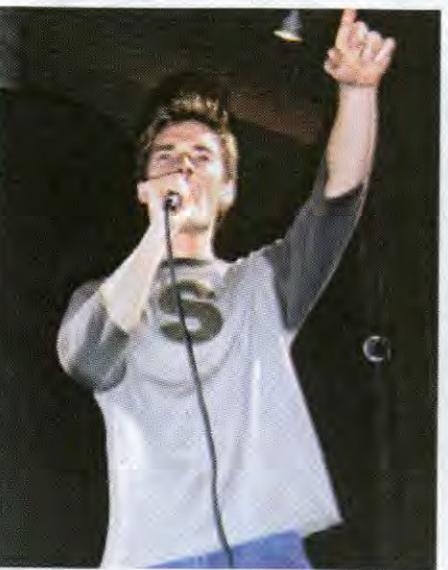
# Ben Hartt is Hyper Blue

Earlier this summer we had the opportunity to hear and see a rising star perform before a large crowd at Donna's at the Citadel. Although more nervous because of the large unexpected crowd Ben Hartt got everyone moving. It was his release party for his first CD Hyper Blue.

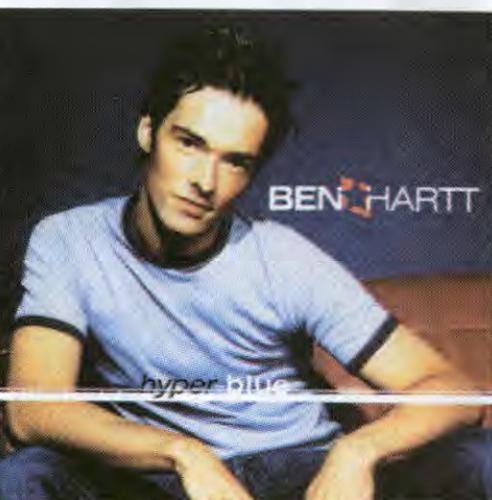
Ben has been involved in the Youth Understanding Youth group, facilitating for a number of years and through this has made many friends. His work, like any volunteer, goes unnoticed by most of the community at large. Being able to help others is a part of his personality and people who get to know him enjoy his companionship.

In person Ben comes across as shy yet personable. All that shyness starts to disappear rapidly as soon as the conversation turns to what he wants to do with his music. Having had some experience in the theatre he did his first public singing when he was in his late teens. After attending Old Scona he spent some time at Grant McEwan taking a music program. All the while writing songs and coming up with the

melodies in his mind. He says that he was heavily influenced by the image of the Jackson's, in particular the image that Janet portrayed on stage and with her music.



Ben feels that it is more important to take some risks with his music than get up on stage and lip-synch. It is better to hear a mistake live than listen to something that is staged to perfection. Since he has always enjoyed being an entertainer he knows that there are risks involved.



In his early writings he started getting into social issues and was into singing some of his "more

bitter" songs. Most of that is in the past although his new CD shows a lot of care in the lyrics. Songs such as Take Me Back show his reflective side along with Don't Say We're Done.

"I was born in the disco age." is one of the songs that catches the listener and when he performed it live people jumped up on the floor and started to do what that song says, Dance. Ben was a bit surprised that people took so long to get going but it was understandable since the crowd was busy getting a first glance at this attractive and well-mannered person.

Other than performing live Ben wants to hear one of his songs being played on the radio. In a way he says it would be a sign that his music is beginning to pay for itself. This of course would mean that there would be another CD on the way in the not too distant future. In the meantime he is doing some local performances and working to get his CD distributed into more locations. HMV have agreed to sell his CD Hyper Blue and it is available online at [www.benhartt.com](http://www.benhartt.com) as well as Pride Video. We know that he is going to do well and want to see him do lots of performances. When you get the chance to hear Ben live get out and give yourself a treat.

In Ben's words: "Be honest with yourself and show kindness to yourself and others. The payment will be great."

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**PRESENTS A**



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## Future Summit

**By Laurie Blakeman – Liberal MLA**

It looks like one of the promises made in the last Throne Speech will finally be fulfilled. You may recall that the Klein conservatives promised that you would get a chance to have a say how you want them to spend their surplus revenue. The Klein government may very well pay off the province's debt within the next couple of years and once its paid off, it will free up a significant amount of money that has been going to debt pay down and interest payments. The purpose of the Future Summit is to find out how you want to spend that money.

The actual Future Summit will be held on February 3 and 4, 2002, with invited guests

being asked to participate, but, you'll have the chance to have your views considered at a series of regional forums that will be held in the next couple of months. In total, there will be 11 regional forums in 9 different locations, with two being held in Edmonton.

Also please note that as of August 1, 2001, we have moved. Our new address is #3, 9908 - 109 Street, Edmonton, T5K 1H5. Our phone number, fax, and e-mail address remain the same.

If you have not bookmarked my new website yet, check it out at [www.laurieblakeman.com](http://www.laurieblakeman.com). It gets updated once every two weeks and more often when we are in session. Let me know if you have any issues you'd like me to raise. Contact me at [blakeman@oanet.com](mailto:blakeman@oanet.com), phone 414-0743 or visit the office at #3, 9908-109 Street. T5K 1H5

Ph. 780.414-0743  
Fax 780-414-0772  
#3, 9908-109 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 1H5

**By Raj Pannu, MLA**

**Leader, Alberta New Democrats**

It's hard not to be cynical about

2 Flamingo TAVERNA

10444 - 82 Avenue  
433-6768

A small illustration of a tropical scene with palm trees and a beach.

I am in the midst of finalizing the exact time and place of the town hall, but if you check my website at [www.laurieblakeman.com](http://www.laurieblakeman.com), I'll make sure its updated with the details once they become known.



## Low-Income Review

the Conservative government's long overdue review of low-income programs in this province. Despite cutting taxes for large profitable corporations in half, and cutting income taxes for the wealthiest Albertans by over 40 per cent, the Klein Conservatives have thus far done nothing to repair the damage from the deep cuts they made to social assistance and other low-income programs back in 1993. In the past eight years, as rents and living costs have risen sharply, Alberta's poorest and most vulnerable citizens have slid deeper into poverty and despair.

Shortly after Human Resources and Employment Minister Clint Dunford announced that a committee consisting of five Tory MLAs would review low-income programs, my colleague Brian Mason released an internal government document that calls into serious question the government's sincerity in

conducting the review. The leaked document said that the current low benefit levels keep poor people off welfare and that "there is no indication of a government direction to allocate more resources to this program by way of benefits adjustments."

In responding to the document, the Minister said it no longer represented current government thinking. He claimed it was over a year old despite the fact that its covering memo was dated June 18, 2001.

It is encouraging that over 5,000 Albertans have responded to a feedback questionnaire distributed by the Tory review committee. The fact that there would be such a strong response to a review being done in the middle of summer speaks volumes about the shortcomings of existing low-income programs.

The New Democrat submission to the low-income review made a number of specific recommendations to improve the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Albertans who depend on these programs. These recommendations include:

- An immediate increase of at least 11 per cent in social assistance and AISH rates to restore them to 1993 levels;
- Raising shelter allowances for low-income Albertans

and ensuring the province plays a more active role in funding the construction of affordable and safe long-term housing;

- Encouraging social assistance recipients to become more independent by allowing them to keep more of the extra income they earn rather than penalizing them by clawing 75 per cent of it back;

- Scrapping health care premiums; and

- Raising the minimum wage to \$7 per hour immediately and to \$8 per hour a year from now thereby lifting more working poor Albertans out of poverty.

Tens of thousands of Albertans have taken the time to tell the Conservative government that it's time for concrete action to improve the lives of families and children in poverty. Let's hope the government is listening.

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# A View from the Top

By Sir Scott

## Prepare, Prepare, Prepare

This month's article has been precipitated by an event while I was in Vancouver with some friends for Pride this year. It seems that an impromptu play session went wrong all because the top and the bottom did not take proper time to prepare for the play.

Leaving most of the details out (including the names of the



the scene was over; only then did the couple realize that the keys were in Edmonton. Needless to say, it caused a momentary panic on both parts, and it points out the fact that a good play session has a large element of preparation involved in it. Yes, there is a certain charm to spontaneity; however, it just makes good sense to be prepared for all eventualities when you are in a scene.

Things like blunted medical

scissors when playing in a bondage scene are good to have handy if a quick escape is necessary, especially if the bottom has a panic attack. Another item to have handy is a first aid kit because you never know when you are going to need a bandage or a cold-compress. A fire extinguisher should be close if you are playing with candle wax or open flames. And always know the phone numbers for medical or emergency services. I know these points seem to be common sense, but sometimes a quick reminder of what it means to play safe is good.

What preparedness speaks to is the first part of our mantra. SAFE, SANE AND CONSENSUAL. It is the responsibility of everyone involved in any scene to ensure that safety is ensured. At the same time, this in no way limits

the thrill and perceived danger that can be a major enticement.

Northern Chaps is back to its regular meeting schedule at the beginning of September. We hope to see many familiar faces and a few new friends out on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at Buddys Nite Club. We are also putting together a Tops-to-Bottoms workshop. The theme is "The Saner Side," where we will be exploring various techniques and holding demonstrations. The tentative date for the workshop is Saturday, November 10, 2001. Keep your eyes on this column for more information. Or check out our website [www.sandmproductions.com/northernchaps](http://www.sandmproductions.com/northernchaps).

Oh, and in case you are wondering, the couple in the predicament did, after 2-3 hours of trying to pick the locks with everything imaginable, free themselves. I laughed so damned hard I cried!



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## How to File a Complaint.

Now that The Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism has been altered by the Supreme Court of Canada you have the right to file a complaint, if you are discriminated against based on your sexual orientation. Please ensure that you document clearly your facts remembering "W5" Who, what, where, when, why. You will need all of these fact in order to file a complaint.

Please see the complete documentation at [www.times10.org/rights.htm](http://www.times10.org/rights.htm)

## Oreo Personality Test

Psychologists have discovered that the manner in which people eat Oreo cookies provides great insight into their personalities. Choose which method best describes your favourite method of eating Oreos:

1. The whole thing all at once.
2. One bite at a time.
3. Slow and methodical nibbles examining the results of each bite afterwards.
4. In little feverous nibbles.
5. Dunked in some liquid (milk, coffee...).
6. Twisted apart, the inside, then the cookie.
7. Twisted apart, the inside, and toss the cookie.
8. Just the cookie, not the inside.
9. I just like to lick them, not eat them.
10. I don't have a favourite way because I don't like Oreo.

Your Personality:

1. The whole thing.  
This means you consume life with abandon, you are fun to be with, exciting, carefree with some hint of recklessness. You are totally irresponsible. No one should trust you with their children.
2. One bite at a time.  
You are lucky to be one of the 5.4 billion other people who eat their Oreos this very same way. Just like them, you lack imagination, but that's okay, not to worry, you're normal.
3. Slow and methodical.

You follow the rules. You're very tidy and orderly. You're very meticulous in every detail with every thing you do to the point of being anal retentive and irritating to others. Stay out of the fast lane if you're only going to go the speed limit.

4. Feverous nibbles.  
Your boss likes you because you get your work done quickly. You always have a million things to do and never enough time to do them. Mental breakdowns and suicides run in your family. Valium and Ritalin would do you good.

5. Dunked.  
Every one likes you because you are always up beat. You like to sugar coat unpleasant experiences and rationalize bad situations into good ones. You are in total denial about the shambles you call a life. You have a propensity towards narcotic addiction.

6. Twisted apart, the inside, and then the cookie.  
You have a highly curious nature. You take pleasure in breaking things apart to find out how they work, though not always able to put them back together, so you destroy all the evidence of your activities. You deny your involvement when things go wrong. You are a compulsive liar and exhibit deviant, if not criminal, behaviour.

7. Twisted apart, the inside, and then toss the cookie.  
You are good at business and take risk that pay off. You take what you want and throw the rest away. You are greedy, selfish, mean, and lack feelings for others. You should be ashamed of yourself. But that's ok, you don't care, you got yours.

8. Just the cookie, not the inside.  
You enjoy pain.

9. I just like to lick them, not eat them.  
Stay away from small furry animals and seek professional medical help immediately.

10. I don't have a favorite way, I don't like Oreo cookies.  
You probably come from a rich family, and like to wear nice things, and go to up-scale restaurants. You are particular and fussy about the things you buy, own, and wear. Things have to be just right. You like to be pampered. You are a prim.

## Had a hard week?

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# Campy Bowling Shirts And Rental Shoes

Do you know that Edmonton has a 10-pin bowling league? The Northern Titans Bowling League has been offering a 10-pin bowling league for Edmonton's gay/lesbian/transgendered and their supporters for the past 10 years. The league runs it's season from Sept-Apr, bowling 3 games once a week. The lanes used this year will be at Gateway Recreation Centre (3414 Calgary Trail N.). The Titans would like to welcome back last year's bowlers, as well as past bowlers from previous years. Like most activities the league would like to see new participants, those who never bowled before and those that have thrown a few. The set up for the league runs on a handicap basis, making it fair game for all those

## Free To Be Volleyball Association

bowling. So don't feel intimidated for not knowing how it's all in fun and is a lot easier than most people think. If you would like to give 10-pin bowling a try with no obligation to join, or would like to practice to see if you still have it, come join the Titans at Gateway Recreation Centre on Sept 8 at 4:00pm. Bring a friend, as it seems to help. League play will start on Sept 15 at 4:30pm. Registration can be done on Sept 8 after the free bowl or before league bowl on Sept 15 at 4:15pm. You can register at any time throughout the year, but is always best on or before Sept 15. So dust off your balls and come join us for a good time At Gateway Recreation Centre. Campy bowling shirts and shoes, could it be any more fun!

For more info (780) 426-6311  
James

The fall indoor volleyball season is approaching fast. The following are the times and dates for each league:



B- Intermediate:  
Thursdays from  
7:30 - 9pm starting  
Sept. 27th  
C- Recreational:  
Mondays from 6 -  
7:30 starting  
Oct.22nd

Both B & C are mixed leagues and play this year at Mary Butterworth School, 16315-109th Street.

Women's League plays at John D. Bracco School, 3150 - 139th Ave. Mondays at 7pm starting Sept 24th.

For further information including prices and no-play dates visit our website at <http://queerseek.com/freetobe/> Or call Darcy (B) 437-6698, Alex (C) 488-8484 or Pam (W) 459-9370

## Secrets Bar & Girl



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# OUT at the symphony



### For gay and lesbian music lovers and their friends

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[www.edmontonsymphony.com](http://www.edmontonsymphony.com)

# Recognized Community Builders

**Affirm United**  
(United Church of Canada) meets at McDougall United Church 10025 - 101 St. Last Saturday of the month at 7:30 - 9:30 PM. For more info, call Larry at 429-4269 or Phyllis/Tess at 462-8896.

**Alberta Pflag**  
Meets the last Sunday of each month at Knox-Met Church. The Church is located at the corner of 109 Street and 83 Avenue. Meeting time is 2 P.M. Contact Ellen by phone at 465-3057 or by e-mail [showrish@compusmart.ab.ca](mailto:showrish@compusmart.ab.ca).

**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
A A is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

**Arctic FrontRunners**  
We are a group of gay and lesbian runners that meets on Sunday mornings for a run on the river valley trail system. We are a recreational group and runners of all speeds are welcome. The length of our runs varies from about 7 to 10 km. We yak, laugh, and socialize during the runs and often go for brunch together afterward. During the spring, summer, and fall, we meet beneath the electronic sign at 87 Ave and 114 St on the University campus at 11:00

AM. For more information, call Bill at 436-7892.

**AXIOS - Edmonton**  
AXIOS is an international organization of Eastern Orthodox and Eastern-Rite Catholic Gay and Lesbian Christians. Our mandate is to promote a greater understanding of human sexuality and spirituality within the Eastern Christian tradition. The AXIOS monthly newsletter is available via the Internet.

**Badminton League**  
The badminton league is designed for men and women of all ages and experience. Players who are interested can participate in Calgary's Western Cup Tournament during the Easter Long Weekend. For further information, please contact Bruce at 453-1244 (email: [cwbyteddy@powersurfr.com](mailto:cwbyteddy@powersurfr.com)) or Dennis at 471-4409.

**The B.E.A.R.S of Edmonton**  
A group for hairy men and their admirers meet the first and third Saturday of each month 9:00 p. m. - 11:00 p.m. at Buddys Night Club. Or write us at #47, 10024-82nd Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6E 1Z3. Our email address is [bears@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:bears@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca). Our WebPages are: [Bears Edmonton](http://www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/~bears)

**Edmonton Prime Timers**  
We are a chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, an international social organization for mature gay and bisexual men and their younger friends over 21. Our activities include: theatre nights, video nights, pub nights, Sunday brunches, and dining out. We meet the second Sunday of every month (except July and August) at 3:00 PM at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (12530 110 Ave.) for a social period, a guest speaker, and an optional

Mennonites and friends. Contact Tim at 434-5360 or Heather at 987-4974. email address [jonrach@msn.com](mailto:jonrach@msn.com)

**Dignity Edmonton**  
This Edmonton chapter is a support community for gay and lesbian Catholics and friends. Contact Bernard at 451-1794 or Joseph at 481-4218

**Classics**  
A social group for lesbians over 40. Meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 2 p.m.. Call Donna at 456-1008

**Edmonton PFLAG/T**  
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Edmonton PFLAG/T promotes the health and well-being of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at GLCCE. For information contact, Lynne at 462-5958 or e-mail: [pflag@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:pflag@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca).

**Equal=Alberta [Edmonton]**  
Equal=Alberta [Edmonton] is a group of concerned citizens working to ensure gay and lesbian Albertans remain protected under Alberta's Human Rights Legislation and to ensure equal treatment for all Albertans. Call: (780) 488-3234 Fax (780) 482-2855. By Email: [equalalberta@hotmail.com](mailto:equalalberta@hotmail.com)

**Brethren Mennonite Council**  
For Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual concerns. This is a support community for gay, lesbian and bisexual

supper at a restaurant. For more information, contact Peter at 426-7019, Ron by e-mail at [mercury@planet.eon.net](mailto:mercury@planet.eon.net), or better yet...join us at our monthly meeting.

**Edmonton Rainbow Business Association (ERBA):**

Gay men and Lesbians in business and our non-gay friends; Join us ...share your business knowledge, learn more, make new friends, network ... in positive, proud space where being yourself is the norm. Call Bill Faulkner for more information at 422 6207. Membership \$25.00/yr.

**Edmonton Vocal Minority**  
Women and men of all sexual orientations dedicated to sharing and preserving the cultural heritage of the queer community. Everyone is welcome to join this mixed voice choir as either a singer or a support member. Come and sing your pride! For information: Telephone: (780) 479.2038, E-mail: [evm@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:evm@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca), on the web at: [EVM](http://www.planet.eon.net/~toocute/evm/), or write to PO Box 12091, Main Post Office Edmonton, AB T5J 3L2.

**HIV Network of Edmonton Society (HIV Edmonton)**  
HIV Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. HIV Edmonton utilizes a best practices Harm Reduction approach in Health Promotion, Advocacy and Support, as well as, maintaining an extensive Resource Centre for use by health practitioners, health promoters, community organizations and those infected and affected by

## Free-To-Be Volleyball Association

The Association aspires to provide opportunities for our community to play volleyball in a supportive atmosphere. 1) C-Recreation - contact Rick at 474-6785; 2) Beach (summer) - contact Rick at 474-6785; 3) B-Intermediate - contact Darcy at 425-7316; Email:

[volleyball@queerseek.com](mailto:volleyball@queerseek.com)  
Website: [FTB.Volleyball](http://FTB.Volleyball)  
[www.queerseek.com/freetobe/](http://www.queerseek.com/freetobe/)

**Gay Men's Wednesday Coffee Evenings.**  
(Group events pending)

## Gay Men's Outreach Crew (GMOC)

GMOC is a peer education initiative for gay/bisexual men that works toward: preventing the spread of HIV among men who have sex with men, advocating for healthy lifestyle choices, and addressing social and health concerns by fostering self-esteem and gay positive attitudes. For information on GMOC workshops and other activities, please call Rob at (780) 488-0564

## HIV Network of Edmonton Society (HIV Edmonton)

HIV Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. HIV Edmonton utilizes a best practices Harm Reduction approach in Health Promotion, Advocacy and Support, as well as, maintaining an extensive Resource Centre for use by health practitioners, health promoters, community organizations and those infected and affected by

HIV. For more information on the activities of HIV Edmonton, please call (780) 488-5742 or contact us by email at [mail@hivedmonton.com](mailto:mail@hivedmonton.com). Visit our Website at [HIV Edmonton](http://HIVEdmonton) [www.hivedmonton.com/](http://www.hivedmonton.com/)

**Illusions Social Club**  
A social club for Cross-dressers, Transsexuals and their supporters. We hold two socials each month, one on the second Thursday and one on the third Saturday. For more information, write to Illusions Social Club, Box 356, Main Post Office, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6. Phone: 424-2685 to talk to someone person to person.

## Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations, which provide direct services to gay and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held at 8 PM on the last Wednesday of the month at the Garage. Our e-mail is: [wildrosecourt@yahoo.com](mailto:wildrosecourt@yahoo.com). Visit our Website is at: [Wild Rose Court](http://www.geocities.com/wildrosecourt/) [www.geocities.com/wildrosecourt/](http://www.geocities.com/wildrosecourt/)

## ICARE Interfaith Centre for AIDS/HIV Resources & Education

Formerly Interfaith Association on AIDS, the purpose of Interfaith Centre is to enhance well-being by offering resources and opportunities for education to service providers and communities. This will lead to an increased understanding of the spiritual and psychosocial needs of those affected by HIV & AIDS. You can contact us at 780-448-1768 or by e-mail at

[icarealberta@aol.com](mailto:icarealberta@aol.com)

## Lambda Christian Community Church

We are a non-denominational evangelical Christian church. One of our primary goals is to provide a safe and affirming environment for all who desire to worship God. Lambda Community Church, 11148-84 Avenue (Garneau United Place) Edmonton, T6G 0V8. Call 474-0753. Weekly Sunday service at 7 p. m. e-mail at [Lambdachurch@aol.com](mailto:Lambdachurch@aol.com)

**Liatris Society**  
An informal social group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and straight people who enjoy gardening and outdoor nature activities. For information, contact [liatrisociety@hotmail.com](mailto:liatrisociety@hotmail.com) or William at 474-7328.

**Liaison Committee, The**  
In June of 1993, Edmonton Police Service and the Gay and Lesbian community met for a liaison to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect. For more info, call Edmonton Police Service at 423-4567 or contact the committee at 421-2277

## Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counseling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through

our society. Phone 488-5768 or e-mail: [livemos@telusplanet.net](mailto:livemos@telusplanet.net).

**Long Yang Club**  
**Edmonton Chapter**  
(Group events pending)

**Lutherans Concerned: Edmonton**  
We are a spiritual community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight people. Lutherans Concerned gathers monthly for worship, sharing, and friendship. We offer individual support and a safe space for our own spiritual questions. Call 426-0905, or write P.O. Box 11095, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K4 e-mail: [lylemillang@powersurfr.com](mailto:lylemillang@powersurfr.com)

**Making Waves Swim Club (MWSC)**  
Open to all who are interested in lane swimming in a Masters GLBT club, we provide coaching to all levels of swimmers - those wishing to learn, those wishing to improve stroke technique and those wishing to train competitively. Drop in opportunity gives you flexibility to match your schedule. We swim at Bonnie Doon Leisure Centre, 8648 - 81 Street, Edmonton from September to June. Our members enjoy numerous social events arranged by the club. Please feel free to contact us to find out more information: Contact us at: 1. WebPages: [Making Waves](http://www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm/home.htm) [www.geocities.com/makingwaves\\_edm/home.htm](http://www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm/home.htm). 2. E-mail: [makingwaves\\_edm@yahoo.com](mailto:makingwaves_edm@yahoo.com) 3. Phone: Warren 780-718-7598. 4. Attend a practice - your first swim is free!

Continued on page 18 17

**Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)**  
Closed until further notice.

**NLA Edmonton**  
The National Leather Association is the largest and most active pansexual organization in the world. It serves the Leather, SM, Fetish communities. We are an all inclusive organization made up of fun-loving, caring, educated and focused people. Join us at our meetings held upstairs at The Roost, 10345-104 Street every 3rd Thursday of the month.

**Northern Chaps**  
Edmonton's Leather - Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established sixteen years ago. We strike to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern Chaps meets at Buddy's Nite Club the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. E-mail us at: [Northernchaps@telusplanet.net](mailto:Northernchaps@telusplanet.net)

**Northern Lights Square Dance Club**  
We are part of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs. Everyone is invited to participate in this non-discriminatory, supportive, fun and stimulating square dance club. Singles and couples are welcome. No special clothing is needed. Comfortable shoes are recommended. We meet every Wednesday, starting September 12, at 7:00P.M., St. Kevin school, 10005-84St., Edmonton. For more information contact Denis

at 780-922-4355. E-mail us at: [bflorapro@aol.com](mailto:bflorapro@aol.com)

#### **Northern Titans**

Northern Titans International Bowling League meets every Wednesday and Saturday, September to April, at Gateway Bowling Centre. For more information, please call Garry Billett at (780) 426-6311. WebPages at: [Northern Titans http://www.geocities.com/northerntitans/](http://www.geocities.com/northerntitans/)

#### **O2 Curling**

We meet on Fridays from 6-8 p.m. at the Granite Curling Club. All skill levels, singles or teams are welcome. Call 479-0211 or E-mail us at:

#### **Open Door Club**

Grant MacEwan College group. Anyone is welcome, including students, college employees, people from the area, prospective students, alumni or people who are interested in meeting other people. Our WebPages are at: [Open Door Club http://www.geocities.com/opendoorclub/](http://www.geocities.com/opendoorclub/) or E-mail us at:

[opendoorclub@hotmail.com](mailto:opendoorclub@hotmail.com)

#### **Out at the Symphony**

A unique social event for gay men. Meet other music lovers on Saturday evenings for concerts of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra Masters mini-series 1. Enjoy special guest speakers, reserved cafe tables at intermission and post-show fun. Contact Paul at 428-1108 ext. 240 for more information.

#### **Outdoors Club**

Have you an interest in

backcountry hiking/ camping? If so, the Outdoors Club is for you. Our purpose is to get people together for hiking/camping trips, primarily within the Rockies and surrounding area. The activities of this group will be member focused and member initiated. Individuals at all skill levels are welcome to participate. For information, please contact us at 780-430-0759 or e-mail: [glb\\_outdoors@hotmail.com](mailto:glb_outdoors@hotmail.com) or visit our WebPages at [Outdoors Club http://www.ee.ualberta.ca/~bdick/glb\\_outdoors](http://www.ee.ualberta.ca/~bdick/glb_outdoors)

#### **OUTreach**

OUTreach is a university-based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. at the second cup on campus. Topics vary from week to week. Additional information is available by e-mail:

[outreach@ualberta.ca](mailto:outreach@ualberta.ca). They also have a WebPages at [OUTreach U of A http://www.ualberta.ca/~outreach](http://www.ualberta.ca/~outreach)

#### **Team Edmonton**

Team Edmonton - Gay Games Association is set up to provide an opportunity for persons interested in participating in the Gay Games through fund raising. If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton, call Johann at 437-0687.

**Yours Mine Ours and Us**  
Parenting support group for glbt parents, partners. Meets the first and third Wed. of the month from 7 - 9 p.m. Small donations for room costs. Issues of parenting, sharing skills, coming out to kids, discipline etc. Call Liz

#### **Volleyball Intermediate League**

We meet every Monday

at 415-5434 or Garry at 426-6311 for more information. This is peer support, not a therapy group, nor a dating service. WebPages at: [Yours Mine Ours Us http://www.geocities.com/yours\\_mine\\_ours\\_us/](http://www.geocities.com/yours_mine_ours_us/)

#### **Youth Understanding**

##### **Youth**

We meet every Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the gay and lesbian Centre of Edmonton, Suite 103, 10612-124 Street. A social support group for anyone under the age of 25 years. For more information, or to give your input, e-mail: [yuyedm@hotmail.com](mailto:yuyedm@hotmail.com). Our WebPages are at [Youth Understanding Youth http://www.virtue.nu/yuy/](http://www.virtue.nu/yuy/)

#### **Visions - Unitarian Church of Edmonton**

We are an open, liberal religious community that value diversity and celebrate our Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered members. With us, you are encouraged with open mind and heart to form your own set of personal beliefs. Sunday services at 9:30am and 11:15am. 12530 - 110 Avenue Ph. 454-8073. For more information, call Mike at 482-6582.

#### **Volleyball Recreation League**

We meet every Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at McCauley Elementary-Jr. High School, 9538-107 Avenue. Updates available at: [Volleyball Recreation http://www.telusplanet.net/public/aschust/vball/crec.htm](http://www.telusplanet.net/public/aschust/vball/crec.htm)

#### **Volleyball Intermediate League**

We meet every Monday

from 6 to 8 p.m. at Londonderry Jr. High School, 7104-144 Avenue. Updates available at: [Volleyball Intermediate](http://www.geocities.com/yours_mine_ours_us/)

#### **Womyn's Volleyball League**

Free-To-Be Volleyball Association has initiated a womyn's only league for the first time this year. The season runs until May 28 and new members are welcome at any point. A drop-in fee of \$5 or a registration fee of \$35 is in effect. Monday nights 7 - 9 p.m. at Highlands Jr. High School (11509 - 62 St. - please use entrance off parking lot. For more information, please contact: Pam at 459-9370 [p\\_mcewin@hotmail.com](mailto:p_mcewin@hotmail.com) or Jenn at 424-5100 [grnwolf@hotmail.com](mailto:grnwolf@hotmail.com)

#### **Womonspace**

We are a social and recreational society for lesbians in Edmonton. We hold monthly dances and other activities. Look for our monthly newsletter around town, or phone 482-1794. Visit our WebPages at [Womonspace http://www.gaycanada.com/womonspace/](http://www.gaycanada.com/womonspace/)

#### **Writers Club**

(Group events pending)

## **Regional Organizations**

**AIDS Yellowknife**  
Website: [AIDS Yellowknife http://www.ssimicro.com/aids/](http://www.ssimicro.com/aids/)

**Freedom Fort McMurray**  
A social Support group for Gays/Lesbian/Bisexual & Transgendered Persons and their friends. For information on upcoming events and inquiring into

membership, please call our Freedom line (780) 799-GAY1 (4291). To speak directly with a welcoming committee member, call between 3-6pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays. You may mail us at Freedom Fort McMurray c/o Money Mart Suite #1, 9713 Harding St. Fort McMurray, AB T9H 1L2.

#### **Grande Prairie**

Gay and Lesbian Community, Box 1492, Grande Prairie, AB T8V 4Z3. E-mail: [gpgayorg@hotmail.com](mailto:gpgayorg@hotmail.com)

#### **Northern Rainbow Youth**

A support group for High School students. Our email address is [nry13\\_18@hotmail.com](mailto:nry13_18@hotmail.com). Any high school student can get more info by contacting their school guidance counsellor. If you want more info yourself, then you can call Crystal at (780) 790-0775 at work.

#### **Out North**

Box 2827, Yellowknife, NT., X1A 2R2, Phone line: 867-669-7279. WebPages: [Out North http://www.yellowknife.com/ptartan/outnorth.htm](http://www.yellowknife.com/ptartan/outnorth.htm) E-mail: [out\\_north99@hotmail.com](mailto:out_north99@hotmail.com)

Your group can be listed here as a community service of Times 10. Please try to keep your listing updated. This is not the place to make announcements of upcoming events, just general information and a contact. E-mail your listing to [groups@times10.org](mailto:groups@times10.org)

# **MONDAYS ARE HOT AMATEUR STRIP**

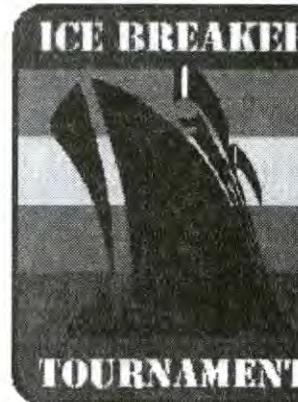
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(780) 479-0211

# WELCOME TO THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HIV/AIDS WALK & RED RIBBON RUN!

For ten years, the HIV/AIDS Walk has been raising funds and awareness for the fight against HIV and AIDS. To mark this important anniversary, the Walk and Run have been shaken up! Get involved today:

## HIV/AIDS Walk (6km)

We have a new venue. Everyone will gather at the MacEwan Centre for Sport & Wellness (10700 104 Avenue). Registration will take place in the gymnasium for both the Walk and Run. The Walk will start at 12noon with a rousing warm up from the Grant MacEwan fitness staff and then we take to the streets!

In a parade-like atmosphere, we will travel together through the streets of Edmonton's central communities with the

aid of police escorts. This new route will help bring awareness and empowerment to those communities most affected by HIV and AIDS, and will also highlight many of the organizations that



provide services and support to these neighbourhoods. The Walk returns to GMCC for an afternoon of entertainment, food, prizes and fun! Everyone is welcome to join the Walk – bring the family dog (on a leash please!) and receive a special gift! For those unable to walk the route, a van will be available to aid with transportation.

There is no registration fee for the Walk; however, Walkers are encouraged to raise pledges. Check out the Pledge Prize levels listed in our Walk brochure, set a goal and go for it! Don't forget to also bring a donation for Edmonton's Food Bank!

## Red Ribbon Run (10km)

This is an exciting year for the 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Run. Race registration (\$25 before Sept. 14, \$35 after) is available at all Running Room locations,

the Walk Office and the Running Room website ([www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com)). Register today! Race packages can be picked up at The Running Room (9537 109 St) on Friday, Sept. 21 (4-8pm), Saturday, Sept. 22 (1-4pm) and on Race Day (9:30-10:30am).

This year's Run will follow 108 Street to the High Level Bridge. After crossing the bridge, the route continues to Emily Murphy Park, across Groat Bridge, along River Valley

Road, up to the Legislative Grounds and back down 108 Street to GMCC. The race begins at 10:30am with medal presentations to follow.

### Other Events (Mark these on your calendar!!!)

Thursday, Sept. 6 – Groove to the music of Jordan Cook at Blues on Whyte (10329 82 Ave.) in support of the Walk.

Sunday, Sept. 9 – Get your haircut at Pink Lime Hair Salon (10334 108 Street) and a donation will be made to the Walk. Call 442 – PINK to make an appointment.

Saturday, Sept. 22 – Walk & Rock with Living Positive! Hall Party (10318 100 Ave) complete with Attila the Hypnotist and DJ! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For tickets and more information call 488 5768.

Contact the Walk Office today for pledge packages, registration and more information!

488 5742 or email [events@hivedmonton.com](mailto:events@hivedmonton.com)

## The UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS

By Bob Mills

The United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS) was the first ever UN Special Session called to deal with a health crisis. The meeting concluded June 27th in New York, with the historic consensus of 189 countries on a declaration to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic globally. The gathering was a significant collective recognition of the urgency in dealing with the scourge of the epidemic by the global community. What is important, is that the world now has a Global Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.

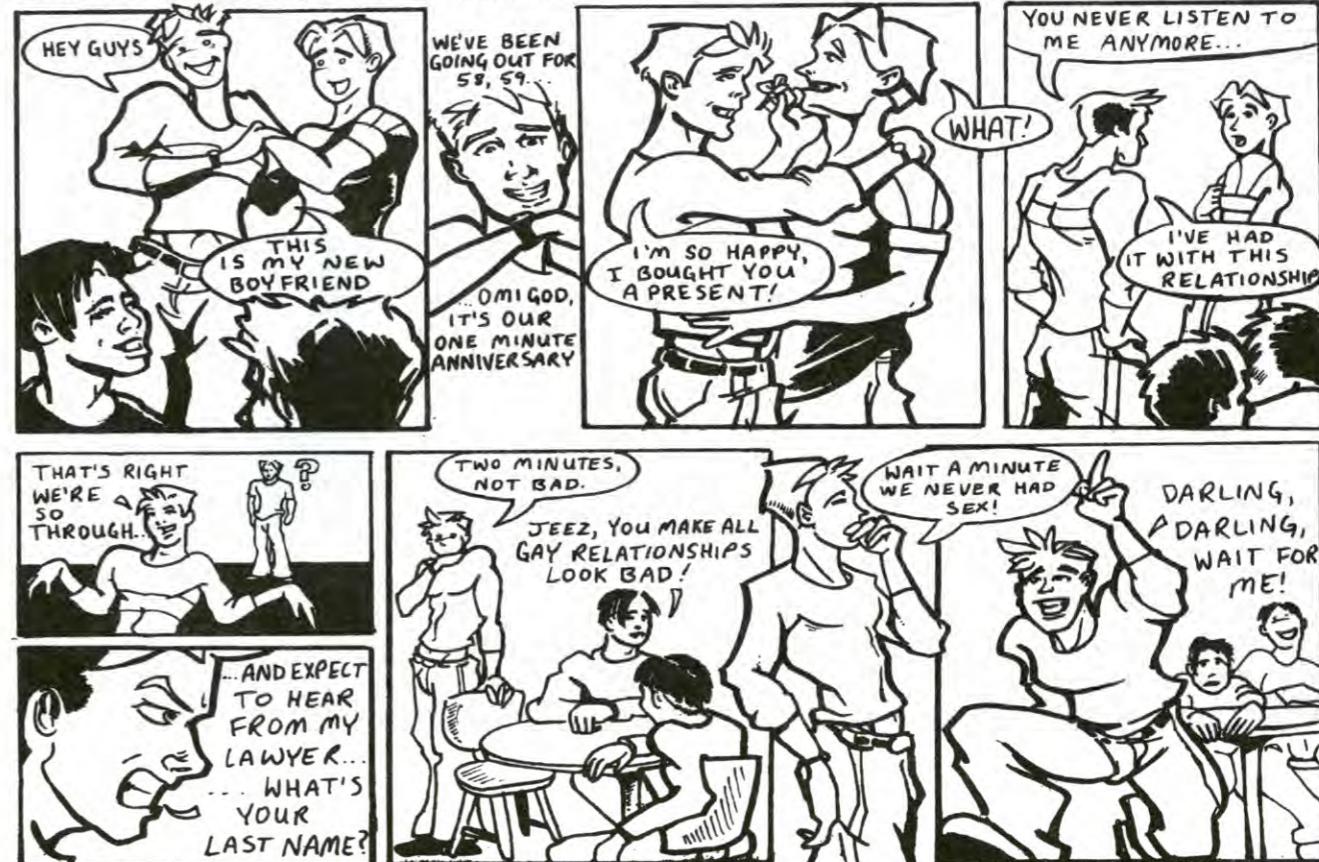
Firstly, it was an honor to be chosen by my colleagues for nomination and then by the Government of Canada to participate in the UNGASS on HIV/AIDS. Representing the views of the Canadian civil society on the government mission to the UN was challenging. Both Ralf Juergens and I worked long into the night on many occasions to make this declaration complete, using the strongest language

that consensus can bring to such a document. The rewards for us were seeing some of our suggestions included in the wording of the final document and in knowing that we actively participated in such a historically significant undertaking.

On the final day, Ralf and I were invited by the Canadian mission to assume the two government seats directly behind the CANADA sign on the General Assembly floor. This invitation was symbolic of Canada's role throughout the UNGASS process. Canada demonstrated it was truly all-inclusive of civil society participation by:

- Including a NGO representative on the Canadian delegation as

### Out At Last by Mike Brown



Commission on the human rights roundtable panel;

- Supporting Canadian civil society participation and encouraging feedback from all interested parties.

What we, as Canadians, gained from the Declaration of Commitment was (confirmation of) the importance of the empowerment of women in fighting the AIDS epidemic worldwide. Canada also negotiated with some of the more conservative countries a compromise by listing in the document factors that lead to (increased) vulnerability to HIV. What Canada, the European Union, Australia and New Zealand were hoping for was a full listing of vulnerable groups

included in the document; we settled for less. We tried, but did not fully succeed in getting a specific reference to the International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights. However, we were successful in getting general references to human rights throughout the document. The references were no small feat considering that not all countries fully support human rights for all people, believe in gender equality or religious freedom. In hindsight, the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS is the best that Canadians could expect as participants in an exercise of consensus by the global community.

The Global Declaration of Commitment can be found at: <http://www.un.org/ga/ads/coverage/FinalDeclarationHIVADS.html>

# The Pride Pages

The 2001/2002 edition of the Greater Edmonton Pride Pages will have a new look. The format will remain a digest but will be glossy, with more colour, maps and increased opportunity for more in depth information about the services available in Edmonton's GLBT community. It will also be published twice a year if businesses show enough interest. This will enhance and increase usage of the directory by excluding outdated information and ensuring the earlier inclusion of new businesses and services. We apologize that the preparation of these details have taken longer than usual but our interest is to provide Edmonton with a quality publication that serves both the community and our advertisers well.

The Greater Edmonton Pride Pages is a huge undertaking that takes close to 1000 hours from start to finish. Yet it has remained a volunteer commitment to Edmonton's GLBT community. In this way we are able to keep advertising rates reasonable for the publication and are able to continue free distribution. The 2000 directory was well distributed in Edmonton through several venues all year long. It was available through the Public library and on-line thanks to Dennis Cambly and the Times .10 Website. It was distributed in 16 communities beyond Greater Edmonton from Ottawa to Vancouver. 3800 issues were distributed in the first four months after release and another 1000 over the course of the year. The balance was kept for use with potential advertisers as with years past.

The 2001/2002 issue will again see a minimum of 5000 printed. Distribution will begin throughout Greater Edmonton with the balance distributed to communities beyond over the following two months. Directories will be available for pick up to any business that want them from the ICARE office at 702A-10242-105 St. (448-1768) in Edmonton. As well, GLCCE will have a generous supply as always. The Public Library and City Hall will also have directories.

There will be a couple of new features this year. The most significant feature will be the opportunity for community groups to purchase a *Community Snapshot* page for \$100.00. This will allow community groups to provide readers with a "snapshot" of their organization for readers and to provide details of their services and meeting times at a reasonable cost. This information will be available in the community for a full year and provides exposure for a prolonged period of time with a one-time expenditure. This will be particularly useful to people who are new to Edmonton or new to the GLBT community and wanting to know what's OUT there. Over the years I have heard many people who are just "out" or new tell me that the Pride Pages were there *map* to Edmonton's community. More than a name address and phone number, the *Community Snapshot* will give community organizations a place to "toot their horn!"

The other new feature is that the Directory will now be published twice a year if the response indicates interest. In order to facilitate this, we will offer a 30% discount on your ad or snapshot for the second issue that would be published in early April 2002. This discount will apply to all display ads and snapshot commitments. The price for line listing would remain the same.

It is our hope that this year's directory will be the best yet. We take PRIDE in providing our community with a quality directory that promotes our own businesses and services as well as those owned and operated by those who choose to serve us with honour and respect.

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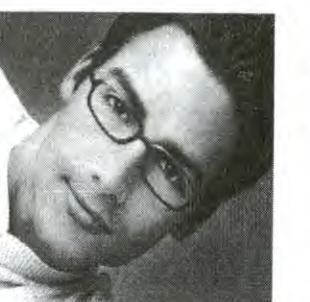
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## "the curtain rises"

**The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Edmonton is proud to invite everyone to its third annual "the curtain rises" cocktail party and fundraiser, from 8:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the Shoctor Lobby of the Citadel Theatre on September 22, 2001.**

The main theme for this year's function is "Looking Back, Looking Forward". Join us in celebrating GLCCE's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as we take a nostalgic look back to when our predecessor, Gay Alliance Towards Equality, first opened its doors in 1971, and take a promising look forward into the future for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community in Edmonton.

Show your support for GLCCE by volunteering (call Kristy at GLCCE 488-3234), becoming a sponsor, donating an item to the silent auction and/or placing an ad in our evening's program (call Chris at 444-5673) and, of course, joining us at the Citadel on September 22nd!

**See you there!**

**Chris Evans  
Chairperson,  
"the curtain rises"**

heaven forbid, that old orange grad dress or tuxedo you swore you would throw away! There will be costume judging too, so whatever "shade of orange" you wear, have fun with it! Just be subtle or be just fabulous!!

# Valuing Gay Men's Lives

*Reinvigorating HIV prevention in the context of our health and wellness*

Submitted by HIV Edmonton

In 1999, the HIV/AIDS Division of Health Canada struck a National Reference Group to oversee the development of a new HIV prevention strategy for gay men. The hope is that this document will both inspire and support AIDS Service Organization, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender organizations and gay communities across Canada to reflect further on renewing HIV prevention efforts.

This strategy draws substantially on an extensive position paper, overseen by the National Reference Group (*Framing Gay Men's Health in a Population Health Discourse: A Discussion Paper* available at [www.gaycanada.com/glhs](http://www.gaycanada.com/glhs)), which reviewed and critically explored the emerging field of gay men's health, including its repositioning of HIV prevention, in relation to a Population Health framework. Those with the most experience in HIV prevention have come to realize, long before policy makers, that looking at HIV prevention among gay men without addressing the psychological, social, legal, political, and economic contexts in which they live ignores major influences on their ability to make healthy decisions.

(The following 32 recommendations represent not only a forward vision in gay men's lives, but also constitute the framework for future reference to the specific social and health issues faced by gay men that have to-date gone unaddressed.—HIV Edmonton)

Recommendations Concerning Population Health Policy As It Speaks To Gay Men's Lives

It is recommended that Health Canada:

1. Explicitly acknowledge that Population Health policy addressing gay men's health and wellness be guided by the population's empowerment to name its own needs and aspirations;
2. Explicitly recognize gay men as a population that experiences inequality regarding health and wellness and inequality in services, despite that population's statistical invisibility;
3. Support the emerging, community-driven field of expertise, resources and area of action in gay men's health;
4. Provide adequate resources to enable gay communities, organizations and networks to critically appropriate, advocate for and implement a Population Health framework, making it speak to their lives, including those of gay men living with HIV, those who are HIV negative and those who do not know their status;
5. Support community capacity building as a central means of contributing to gay men's health and wellness through substantial and consistent public funding of community-based infrastructure, operations, programmes, and projects;
6. Add "Conditions that affirm choices of coming out" as a Determinant of gay men's health within present Population Health policy, and

that other Determinants of health commonly used within Population Health policy be flexibly shaped to respond to the realities of gay men's lives;

7. Include "Conditions that affirm choices of coming out", "Social Support Networks", and "Social and Physical Environments" as possible priority Determinants of gay men's health;
8. Allocate adequate funding resources for ongoing research related to gay men and to the Determinants of their health;
9. Sponsor a collaborative national study on the sexuality of Canadians to establish a comprehensive picture of gay men's lives, their perceptions related to gay identities, their practices and values, and their relationships with gay and other communities in Canada;
10. Intensify and sustain greater collaboration among various branches of Health Canada, between Health

Canada and gay communities,

and between Health Canada and other sectors and all levels of government, in the pursuit of gay men's health and wellness;

11. Plan, implement, and evaluate collaboration and action on the interrelated Determinants of gay men's health among various sectors of Health Canada, other federal departments, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, and other sectors, in partnership with gay communities of Canada.

(Full text of this article available at [www.times10.org](http://www.times10.org) under Health)

(From the National HIV Prevention Strategy for Gay Men developed by a National Reference Group initiated by the HIV/AIDS Policy, Coordination and Programs Division of Health Canada available at [www.gaycanada.com/glhs](http://www.gaycanada.com/glhs))

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# Speaking Of Normal<sup>®</sup>

By Liz Massiah, MSW,  
RSW  
Member, Clinical  
Social Work Registry

And Gordon Portman,  
award-winning  
playwright.

It's almost September as I write this, and perhaps as you read it. A new year's sort of time for many, with back to school being a major marker for a lot of us, even if we haven't been in school for years. It is a transition time: there's a solstice coming, the weather starts to change, the sun sets earlier ... and things start to die—leaves and gardens, mostly (even though it may be that nothing visible is happening, we know it's coming). We feel it in our bones and in our souls.). And: late September used to be one of the times that counselling agencies notice something interesting ... the phone rings more often than in mid August. Why? Because transition involves going from one state of being to another, from one routine to another,

from one notion of oneself and one's life to another ... looking forward to an adventure and also wondering how to manage.

It seems to me that as lesbians and gay men, we deal with transition likely more than most. Think of it this way: those who are members of "invisible" minorities are always assumed to be part of "the norm" — the white, heterosexual, healthy one, or the person of colour, still heterosexual, still healthy one. Anyone who differs from that "norm" is somehow perceived as less by "the norm", or those who believe "the norm" is the only way to be. Revealing that "less than" status (whether we're talking

non "norm" sexuality, alcoholism, diabetes, epilepsy, emotional illness, whatever) means we make a decision, and therefore make a transition ... and experience all the stress associated with that state of being.

Further: coming out is also a transition, likely one of the most life changing ones we will ever make. It does not seem to matter if we do it when we are 14 or 44: the coming out process has a life and demands of its own. What makes this particular transition even more challenging is the fallacy that coming out only happens once — we tell ourselves, we tell our parents and friends and that's it. Wrong: we do it

constantly. Seldom does a day go by when we are not faced with the moment of uncertainty of coming out and wondering, just for a moment, how we will be received. That moment may be minuscule, but it's there. As a result, we live frequently in that state of transition, tweaked by those moments of uncertainty and anxiety transition brings: those coming out moments may just be an instant of deciding whether or not to use language that reveals us or to use language to hide, but again ... they're there.

This notion of our being so frequently in transition might help to explain the high rates of drug and alcohol abuse in our community, along with

some of the other ways in which gay men/lesbians fill their time. When we relate transition to uncertainty to anxiety, it makes sense: when we are anxious, we want to find ways to distract ourselves from that anxiety, to defeat it, to find something to take its place. We self-soothe, or self medicate with drugs, alcohol, sex, food, shopping, bar room brawls, whatever, and when it works and the anxiety fades, we do the same thing again and again and then sometimes can't stop...lo and behold an addiction has taken root. So maybe we aren't addicted because we are lesbian or gay (as many of "the norm" folks would like to believe) or because we have PTSD or we're naturally addictive personalities or whatever ... maybe we're dealing with our unmanaged self soothing techniques. Maybe our well-intentioned attempts at self-care took over and got a bit out of hand.

In any case, learning to manage our moments of transition can be key to hanging on to our strongest sense of ourselves and indeed to developing a new one.

Sometimes the beginnings of this process can be as simple as acknowledging that transitions can be tough to handle. Then: when change hits we often want to hang on to our current situation, with its predictability and security and resent the pending change. That's all right, it's "normal": feel free (and safe) to fuss and fret as much as you need to. As you do so, though, try to alter the fussing just a bit each time. Deep breaths, telling yourself your own version of "this too will pass" often is just enough to bring you back to yourself, to the moment. Anxiety is sometimes described as occurring when your body has gotten up the energy for some

future event but it's still now, so notice that, and look for ways to return yourself to the present without letting ways such as experiencing the immediacy and sensations of sex, violence, substance use, etc become the end, rather than the means. What about exercise? Meditation? Conversation with loved ones or colleagues? All work well to bring us back to the moment.

Finally: life transitions are often when folks end up getting stuck and coming for psychotherapy (one client realized that so much had recently changed in his life that he needed help putting together the pieces of his new life, all in the context of understanding his past and defining a future). Often what happens at the beginning of the work is that we find what will likely help us stay here and now, and then once we do that, the anxiety declines, the ability to self-soothe (in a healthy way) strengthens, and we can start putting the pieces together.

On the other hand, sometimes the now is so nasty that the shift needs to be towards being more able to bring the future into the present by leaving an unhealthy job or relationship. Even then, though, we need to manage the transitions to help support the changes being made so the issue of transition is always part of the work.

In short, it's all — as are so many things — about balance. Honestly facing what is with a full and healthy awareness of how that's different from what has been and what may be is, in my experience, the best way to begin the process of living through transition and change ... instead of living *in spite* of

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# Ice-Breaker Season

Fall is coming, and with fall comes The Edmonton Icebreaker. For many years Edmonton has hosted various sporting events each November in the Icebreaker tournament. This year's version will take place November 9-11 and will involve

bowl ing , volleyball, curling and 8-ball. Each event will be held at a different venue around the city, stretching from Gateway Bowling in the south to Edmonton Garrison in the north.

The weekend will start off with a registration and meet and greet on Friday night, at Boots, where everyone meets



and goes home early because of the serious competition in the morning. (RIGHT!) Competition starts Saturday morning as early as eight o'clock for those who manage to crawl from whatever den they have found themselves. The day is spent in friendly competition with people from across western Canada. Losers buy the drinks, except for the volleyballers – the only ones not in a licensed facility.

Saturday nights dinner and dance at the Hellenic hall will be hosted by The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose with proceeds being split between the Court's charities and the Icebreaker tournament's costs. Knowing the kind of party the court throws; it's a good thing that hangover cures are available at all the venues on Sunday. (Again except for the poor volleyball players.) The tournament ends Sunday night with a wrap up party for all those still standing.

There will be a couple of new twists this year. We are hoping to get enough interest to be able hold a separate women's

volleyball tournament in conjunction with the usual B an C level events. Also new is the early-bird registration discount. Everyone registering by October 19 will get \$10 off the cost of his or her individual packages. Early birds will also be eligible for a draw to receive their entire individual registration fee back.

All of the fall sports are gearing up now! For information or to register for the Icebreaker or the individual sports leagues, please call 479-0211 or visit our WebPages at [www.queerseek.com/icebreaker](http://www.queerseek.com/icebreaker).

Lance Anderson



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## A Special Thank You

I was unable to attend the Awards Ceremony so I am writing to thank all those concerned for the Pride Certificate awarded me for 2001. I am greatly honoured. The certificate serves to remind me of the tremendous support I received after Larry's passing, not only from our community, but also from the community at large. It is a sign of the times that no hostility has ever been directed to me despite the very public nature of my business. We still have a ways to go but I'm optimistic that the snowball effect will greatly reduce the time it takes to achieve full equality.

I share this honour with my dearest Larry whose love is guiding me in this course of action, and with my lawyer Julie Lloyd whose knowledge, passion and compassion are making this journey so much easier.

Finally, on behalf of Larry, I thank you for the award honouring his name. I picture Larry now with a quiet smile on his face, which, like the awards, is Self-Assured Proud, not Arrogant-Proud.

*Thank you sincerely,  
Brent Johnson*

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## World Accord- ing to Genetics (not GARP)

*By Ms. Rebecca*

Before I start, did I mention I am a sarcastic Virgo who may be inclined to speak her mind? Go with that. So the "smart straight people" in the world has made some startling discoveries; gay people exist because they hate the opposite sex; you must be gay because you were abused as a child; they are 'acting' gay because it will get revenge on

their parents or society; it's cool; it's just a phase; its was those 12 years of all boys boarding school, but no where can they just say it may just perhaps be genetic; its all in your head if you would just act like your supposed to.

To use an example of why I do believe in the genetic theory: I will use "Myself"

My flamingly queer uncle has more doilies than all my grandmothers put together and when the last one died he got all hers too. It's a damn doilies heaven with fridge magnets and porcelain ornaments you only have nightmares about. Then there is my other uncle who has changed his name cause his true name sounded to manly. Yes there is more. The aunt is a butch lesbian. Did I mention my father is a crossdresser and that would be why my mother just couldn't take it anymore and now I am the product of a broken home. Ok, so maybe he should have bought his own clothes, but they were married; what happened to sharing, it wasn't like she was wearing them.

So then I appear "claiming

to be a lesbian" and no one can figure out how this could possibly happen. Genetics can't possibly be involved. Cause all the others are just going through a phase. Maybe the phase is contagious! That's the problem, a genetic strain of contagious gay genes. Give me a Nobel Prize. What if you are happy with who you are but the body isn't what the mind says the body should be. There are a lot of resources and discovery is a wonderful thing.

Here's PlanetOut's official list of ten of the best transgender books.  
 1. Transgender Warriors: Leslie Feinberg  
 2. Sex Changes: Pat Califia  
 3. Gender Outlaws: Kate Bornstein  
 4. Body Alchemy: Loren Cameron  
 5. Sacred Country: Rose Tremain  
 6. The Last Time I Wore a Dress: Daphne Scholinski  
 7. Crossing: Deirdre McCloskey  
 8. Suits Me: The Double Life of Billy Tipton: Diane Wood Middlebrook  
 9. Medical, Legal and WorkPlace Issues for the Transsexual: A Guide for Successful Transformation Sheila Kirk and Martine Rothblatt  
 10. The Drag King Book: Del La Grace Volcano and Judith "Jack" Halberstam

Just ask Rebecca can be found at [www.othersidesalon.com](http://www.othersidesalon.com) (located in Edmonton) or email her your questions at [thestorm@telusplanet.net](mailto:thestorm@telusplanet.net)



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# You and Your Funny Bone...:)

## Einstein

When Albert Einstein was making the rounds of the speaker's circuit, he usually found himself eagerly longing to get back to his laboratory work. One night as they were driving to yet another rubber-chicken dinner, Einstein mentioned to his chauffeur (a man who somewhat resembled Einstein in looks & manner) that he was tired of speechmaking.

"I have an idea, boss," his chauffeur said. "I've heard you give this speech so many times. I'll bet I could give it for you." Einstein laughed loudly and said, "Why not? Let's do it!"

When they arrive at the dinner, Einstein donned the chauffeur's cap and jacket and sat in the back of the room. The chauffeur gave a beautiful rendition of Einstein's speech and even answered a few questions expertly.

Then a supremely pompous professor asked an extremely esoteric question about anti-matter formation, digressing here and there to let everyone in the audience know that he was nobody's fool. Without missing a beat, the chauffeur fixed the professor with a steely stare and said, "Sir, the answer to that question is so simple that I will let my chauffeur, who is sitting in the back, answer it for me."

## Church Bells

Upon hearing that her elderly grandfather had just passed away, Jenny went straight round to visit her grandmother. When she asked how her grandpa had died, her gran explained, "He had a heart attack during sex on Sunday morning." Horrified, Jenny suggested that having sex at the age of 94 was surely asking for trouble. "Oh no," her gran replied, "we had sex every Sunday morning, in time with the church bells—in with the dings and out with the dong."

She paused, and wiped away a tear. "If

it wasn't for that damn ice cream truck going past just as the church bells were ringing, he'd still be alive."

## God Bless

A man was hearing his little boy's prayers one night and was puzzled when he heard his little son say: "God bless Mommy and Daddy and Grammy and Grampy. Good bye Auntie." The father shook his head and walked out. The next day, his sister, the boy's aunt died. About a month later he was listening the little boy pray again and the little boy recited: "God Bless Mommy and Daddy and Grammy."

Good bye Grampy." The father, slightly puzzled, left the room. The next day the boys' grandfather died. Two weeks later, the man once again listened to his son's prayer: "God Bless Mommy and Daddy. Good Bye Grammy." The boys' grandmother died the next day.

Three weeks later the man once again listened to the little boy's prayers. This time the man was worried when he heard the little boy pray: God Bless Mommy. Good Bye

Daddy." The man was very worried so the next day he left for work an hour early to beat the rush hour traffic. He stayed at the office all day, not even going out for lunch. He stayed until after midnight. He was STILL alive!

Arriving home, very late, he apologized to his wife profusely feigning a very busy workday. "So you've had a bad day!" the wife screamed back at him, "Today the mailman died on our front porch!"

## Eighteen

A policeman was patrolling a local parking spot overlooking a golf course. He drove by a car and saw a couple inside with the dome light on. There was a young man in the driver's seat reading

a computer magazine and a young lady in the back seat knitting. He stopped to investigate.

He walked up to the driver's window and knocked. The young man looked up, cranked the window down, and said, "Yes, officer?" "What are you doing?" the policeman asked. "What does it look like?" answered the young man. "I'm reading a magazine."

Pointing towards the young lady in the back seat, the officer then asked, "And what is she doing?" The young man looked over his shoulder and replied, "What does it look like? She's knitting." "And how old are you?" the officer then asked the young man. "I'm nineteen," he replied. "And how old is she?" asked the officer. The young man looked at his watch and said, "Well, in about twelve minutes she'll be eighteen."

## Are you not worried?

An old man and woman were married for years even though they hated each other. When they had a confrontation, screams and yelling could be heard deep into the night. A constant statement was heard by the neighbours who feared the man the most. "When I die I will dig my way up and out of the grave to come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!" They believed he practised black magic and was responsible for missing cats and dogs, and strange sounds at all hours. He was feared and enjoyed the respect it garnished.

He died abruptly under strange circumstances and the funeral had a closed casket. After the burial, the wife went straight to the local bar and began to party as if there was no tomorrow. The gaiety of her actions were becoming extreme while her neighbours approached in a group to ask these questions: Are you not worried? Concerned? Afraid? of this man who practised black magic and stated when

he died he would dig his way up and out of the grave to come back and haunt you for the rest of your life?

The wife put down her drink and said..."let the old bastard dig. I had him buried upside down."

"Oh, I am sorry" said the Queen.

## Alberta Health Care

The Queen of England while visiting Alberta and stopped at one of our top hospitals, and during her tour of the floors she passed a room where a male patient was masturbating. "Oh my god!", said the Queen, "That's disgraceful, what is the meaning of this???"

The doctor leading the tour explains, "I'm sorry your Highness, this man has a very

serious condition where the testicles rapidly fill with semen. If he doesn't do that five times a day, they would explode and he would most likely die instantly."

"Well," said the Pro, "I was teed up for the first hole. As I brought my club back, the jerk stuck his hand between my legs and grabbed my BALLS! I missed the ball and he yelled "GOTCHA!"

"But how did you LOSE?!?", said the astounded club owner. Have you ever tried to play 18 holes of golf waiting for the second "GOTCHA"?"

## Gotcha

The club duffer challenged the local golf pro to a match with a \$100 bet on the side. "But," said the duffer, "since you're MUCH better than I, let's even the odds. You have

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# Human Rights in Alberta

## Sexual Orientation

Discrimination based on sexual orientation is prohibited by the Alberta Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act. Although it is not expressly stated in the Act, as of April 2, 1998, sexual orientation is "read in" to the Act by the Supreme Court of Canada as a protected ground of discrimination in Alberta.

This includes protection from differential treatment based on a person's actual or presumed sexual orientation or his or her association with a person who is homosexual, heterosexual or bisexual.

Homosexual (gay or lesbian) is defined as being a person who is sexually attracted to persons of his or her own sex. Heterosexual is defined as being a person who is

sexually attracted only to persons of the opposite sex. Bisexual is defined as being a person who is sexually attracted to persons of both sexes. Under the Act, discrimination based on sexual orientation is prohibited in all of the following areas:

Public statements, publications, notices, signs, symbols, emblems or other representations which indicate discrimination, or the intent to discriminate, or expose individuals or groups to hatred or contempt;

Goods, services, accommodation or facilities that are customarily available to the public;

Tenancy - (all tenants and prospective tenants have the right to equal treatment in the rental of any commercial unit or self-contained dwelling unit);

Employment practices - (refusing to hire, promote or provide equal treatment to someone because of his or her sexual orientation. Employees have the right to work in an environment free of harassment based on their sexual orientation);

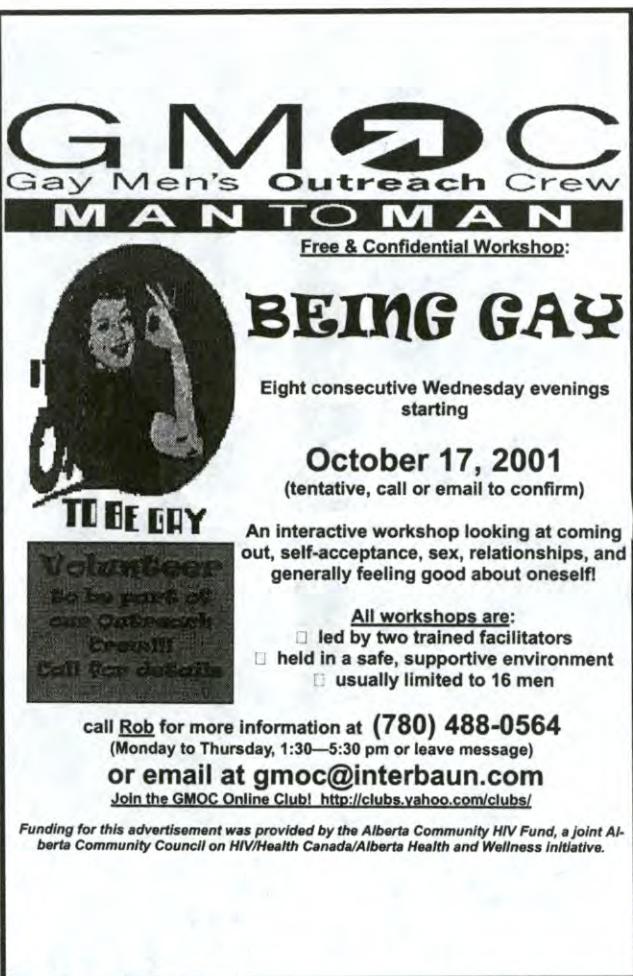
Employment applications or advertisements;

Membership in trade unions, employers' organizations or occupational associations.

In addition to sexual orientation, the Act also expressly prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, religious belief, colour, gender, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, age (some restrictions apply), ancestry, place of origin, family status, and source of income. Employers, landlords, business operators and providers of services are required to reasonably accommodate the needs of individuals based on any of these grounds.

The Human Rights and Citizenship Commission accepts, conciliates and investigates complaints of discrimination based on any of the areas and grounds protected under the Act.

Note: A complaint must be filed with the Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission within twelve months of



Alberta. This means that where there is a conflict with other provincial legislation, the Human Rights legislation prevails unless it is "expressly declared by an Act of the Legislature that it operates "not notwithstanding" the human rights legislation.

*the curtain rises*  
sept 22, 2001 8:00 pm @ the citadel

shades of orange 00 2001



for more information, or to volunteer, call GLCCE at 488-3234 or visit us at [www.edmc.net/gcce](http://www.edmc.net/gcce). tickets \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door.

# New Directions at Orlando Books



As most people know, the going has been rough for independent bookstores in the last while. Orlando Books is meeting the challenge by converting much of its operation into second-hand books. Most of the reorganization should be complete by early September in time for a grand reopening weekend September 8 and 9.

Orlando will continue stocking new titles in its special interest areas, namely gay, lesbian and queer fiction and non-fiction, books on globalization, post-colonialism, feminism and anti-racism, and will also keep up its fine selection of Canadian small press titles. The weekly readings and book launches will carry on - note that events this fall include readings by Dionne Brand and Nicole Brossard - and it will also continue ordering books for classes and reading groups.

The demise of independent bookstores has been accompanied by the demise of independent publishing houses, including lesbian and gay ones. And although some of the larger houses are publishing books with lesbian and gay themes, they tend to have short shelf lives, some of them being declared out of print after a year or two of being published. Orlando wants to keep as many of these titles in circulation as possible, so if you have a collection of books that you haven't looked at for awhile, consider recycling them by selling or trading them in for ones you haven't read yet. Naiad Press romances anyone? Gay Men's Press or any Masquerade titles piled up in the corner of the basement? Bring them in for cash and keep the culture alive.

Jacqueline Dumas  
Orlando Books  
10123 Whyte Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T6E 1Z5,  
Canada  
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780-437-4080  
[http://  
www.orlandobooks.com](http://www.orlandobooks.com)

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Sunday & Holiday 12 p.m.  
to 5 p.m.

## Stories From The Door

In May of 1992, I started door

knocking for my first election campaign. Ward 4 is a large diverse ward that includes both sides of the river from 111 Avenue to Argyll Road on the south and 149 Street to 75 Street on the east. Door knocking is one of the major ways for me to introduce myself to residents and for me to learn about people and their communities. Ward 4 has about 120,000 people and 60,000 households and of course I only get to a small fraction of those doorsteps! I do enjoy door knocking and let me relate a couple of experiences I have had to readers of Times 10.

In 1982, on a Friday evening, I was door knocking in the southeastern portion of the ward. As I rang the doorbell of a small, quite old house I could hear the Eskimos football game being broadcast. When a woman in her eighties came to the door, I introduced myself and said that I was running for city council. She replied that she could only talk a few minutes, as she had to get back to 'her Eskimos'! I commented on how good she looked and she told me that she was in her 80's and had been born and raised in this very same home - a small garden/farm house owned by her parents since 1905. I thanked her and encouraged her to make sure she got out and voted. It was then that she told me that as a child she remembered her mother going to meetings to lobby for the right for women in Edmonton to vote and when the vote was granted in 1916, her mother got up at 6 am and left to get in line to vote as soon as the doors were opened and 'she never missed an election, and ever since I was old enough, like my mother, I have voted in every election and I won't miss this one!"

In the 1995 election, I knocked on a door on the north side and

a husband and wife in their sixties who answered the door said, "Oh, we know who you are - you are Michael Phair! We voted for you last time and will again this time. We called our son who is gay and lives in England and told him that we voted for you. We were so proud to vote for someone who is gay and told our son that things have really changed since he was a teenager and decided he had to leave Edmonton".

A couple of weeks ago while door knocking in Old Strathcona, a young lesbian answered whom I recognized and we chatted a bit about the city and elections. She indicated that, of course, she would vote on October 15 "as I did in the recent federal election. You know," she said, "as much as I disliked Stockwell Day, I knew in the end the most important thing I could do was vote against him. I have never felt so politically satisfied as I did when I voted against the Alliance Party for someone else - it was a thrill!"

One thing I have learned from door knocking is that not only is it important for me that residents vote on October 15, but that most voters go out because it means something and is important to them personally. So on October 15, go out and vote for a Mayor, Councilors, School Board Trustees, Capital Health Authority Members (and if you live in Ward 4, hopefully you will vote for me) because it will bring you personal satisfaction!

(For comments or questions about the city, contact Michael Phair at 496-8146, fax 496-8113 or e-mail [michael.phair@gov.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:michael.phair@gov.edmonton.ab.ca))



October 5-8, 2001

## METAMORPHOSIS

"The Prairie Celebration for Gays and Lesbians and their Allies" Metamorphosis was first held in Saskatoon in 1978 and became an annual celebration until the late 80's. Metamorphosis is back and organizers hope that it will once again become an annual event.

Over the years Metamorphosis was held, it saw lesbians and gay men from across the country converge each Thanksgiving for a fun-filled weekend of events and networking. Its reputation spread across Canada and people still fondly talk about their visits to Saskatoon and Metamorphosis. This year Metamorphosis will be held October 5-8 and the schedule of events is as follows:

### Fri. Oct. 5 Registration And Coffee House

THE UNITARIAN CENTRE  
912 IDYLWYLD DRIVE NORTH

### Workshops and Artisan Craft Fair

Unitarian Centre

### DANCE

COSMOPOLITAN SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE  
614 - 11<sup>TH</sup> ST. EAST

### Sun. Oct. 7 Thanksgiving Feast

Concert Featuring Heather Bishop And The Bridge City Chorus

ST. THOMAS-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH  
808 - 20<sup>th</sup> St. West

### Mon. Oct. 8 Brunch - Unitarian Centre

This event is being advertised across the country and is an exciting opportunity to make new friends and to renew old acquaintances.

For further information or to request a registration package, please call Marion at 931-8875.



## Unnecessary Deaths from AIDS

By David Horowitz

A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reveals that 40% of people infected with the AIDS virus didn't realize they had the virus for ten years after being infected. They only became aware of their condition through the appearance of full-blown AIDS. The same government agency estimates that more than 800,000 Americans are infected with the virus.

There are two grim and unarguable consequences of these statistics. First, those who carry the virus undetected deprive themselves of the enhanced possibilities of survival through early treatment by drugs. By the time AIDS becomes full blown, the body's immune system has already been severely damaged and the patient is subject to life-threatening infections and cancers. But from an epidemiological view, this isn't even the worst news. The presence of the virus in the blood and sperm of the infected means that if they are sexually active or sharing drug needles they are unknowingly infecting others. According to the government's own estimates, this means that roughly 320,000 Americans are out there infecting unsuspecting others all the time.

This march of death is made possible by the surrender of public health authorities to the pressures of political groups opposed to what once had been

the standard procedure for fighting epidemic diseases like AIDS: testing. Without testing of at-risk individuals and groups, there is no way to insure that individuals will know their lives are in danger, or that they are endangering the lives of others. Yet irresponsible zealots have successfully removed testing from the government's arsenal of weapons available in the battle against AIDS. They have even managed to pass laws against testing, in states like California and New York, which have by far the largest concentration of AIDS cases,

HIV carriers and people at risk.

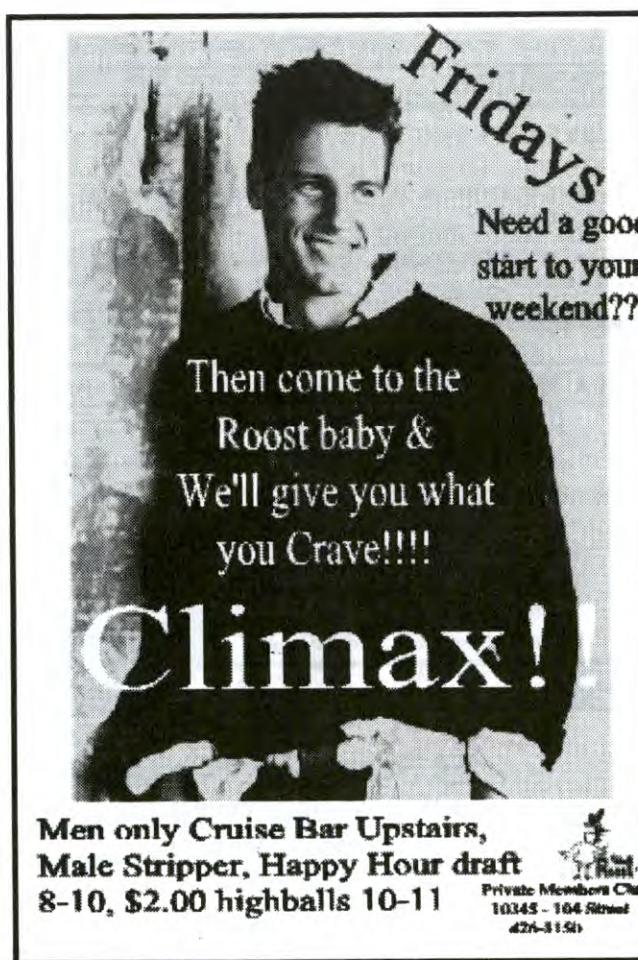
As I have already observed, AIDS is the worst reported story in the history of American journalism. While the media dutifully passed on these new statistics about silent AIDS carriers, there was not a single press query about the government's lackadaisical attitude towards testing, even though the statistics show that we are in the midst of a monstrous pandemic, which shows no signs of abating. Despite the new drugs, 40,000 young Americans are dying every year. Yet the press raised no questions about the need for mandatory measures, made no comments about the political obstruction of public health methods like contact tracing and reporting, and had no observations about the feckless surrender of public health officials to the prejudices and paranoia of special interest groups. How unlike its reporting on cigarette smoking or guns.

For more than a decade now, the word "prevention," as used by the chief government agency for combating epidemic diseases, has been a

cruel, not to say Orwellian, deception. By "prevention" public health officials mean only voluntary, mainly educational measures. But the experience of the last two decades has clearly shown that such measures are inadequate to the task of actually containing the AIDS epidemic.

For nearly 20 years, HIV and AIDS have presented historic challenges to our nation's public health, scientific, and medical communities. The number of people living with AIDS is increasing as effective new drug therapies keep HIV-infected persons healthy longer and dramatically reduce the death rate. Despite extremely beneficial advances in HIV/AIDS treatment in recent years, the epidemic is far from over. An estimated 40,000 Americans become

Continued on page 42



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## Death from AIDS

**Continued from page 40**

measures that mainly involve "counselling." In other words, if you are willing, you can get tested. If you are willing, you can get information. If you are willing, you can wear a condom and not use someone else's needle. But we know that not enough people are willing. There is no community that has been bombarded with more information about AIDS than the gay community, and yet AIDS is on the rise in the gay community, which accounts for 60% of new infections.

Of course, testing is just the tip of the AIDS iceberg. Real prevention of new AIDS infections would also involve reporting and contact tracing, and the closing of infection sites (like public sex clubs). All these methods were proven indispensable in fighting contagious diseases before AIDS. Yet all the political battles over

whether to deploy these weapons against AIDS were lost to the AIDS lobby more than a decade ago.

Not coincidentally, this lobby is funded by the epidemic it fuels. One of the facts most studiously ignored by a pliant media is that AIDS activist organizations have grown rich off the mounting toll of the dead. A whole industry has been created out of the successive failures of current public health policy. The bigger the epidemic resulting from these failures, the more government money available to "AIDS providers." This is not to suggest that AIDS providers want people to die. Obviously they don't and a lot of their effort is the work of very dedicated and idealistic people who have extended themselves to help others. The same however could be said for defence workers in the famous military-industrial complex. The problem is that, in both cases, the symbiosis of service and

profit has sinister side effects.

Many people in the AIDS battle who know better? Doctors and scientists for example are restrained from advocating changes in AIDS policies that have failed because they are afraid of being cut off from the community on which their work depends. An epidemiologist researching AIDS who strenuously advocates testing and draws attention to the flaws in current policy, for example, may find the grants on which his work depends cut off. Efforts to promote stronger public health measures including the closing of infection sites have met powerful resistance at every stage of the epidemic by people who represent the at-risk community. Explaining why misguided policies go unchallenged, Gabriel Rotello, a founder of ACT-UP who has had second thoughts about the wholesale discarding of public health methods observes, "gay leaders frequently

made it plain to researchers that anyone who raised questions about gay sexual freedom for any reason, whether ethical or biological, would be equally accused of anti-gay bias. Few researchers were willing to venture into such a political and social hot zone, and the few who did found that they consequently lost influence within the gay male community, a bad position to be in if your research required a high level of cooperation from gay men."

Only an aroused and activist public can break this vicious cycle, which has had a crippling effect on the war against AIDS. The idea that heterosexual couples can be forced to take tests for syphilis, which is curable, but gay couples and IV drug users can't be tested for AIDS, which is absurd. And yet belief in this absurdity is killing nearly a thousand young people in this country every week of every year.

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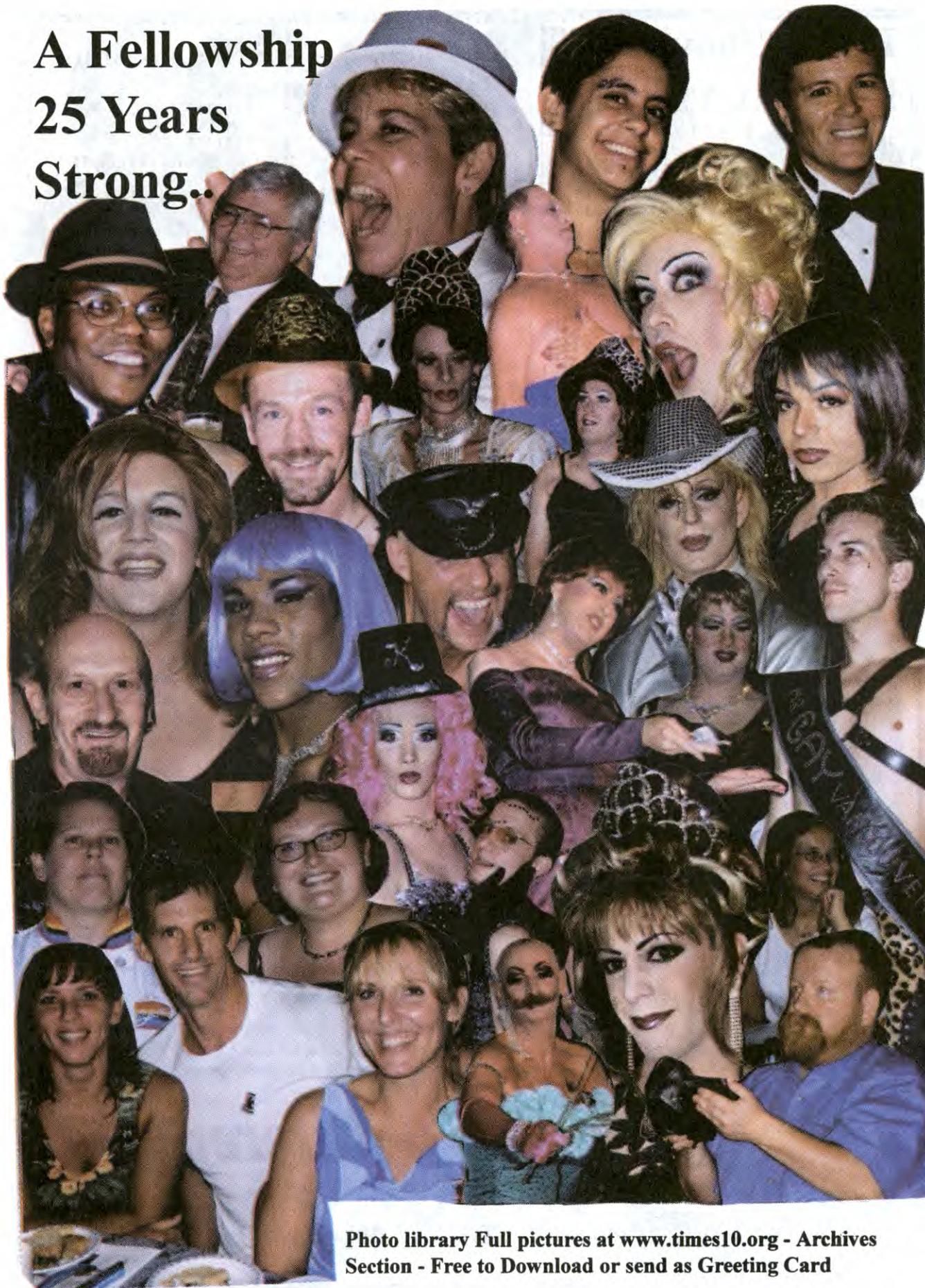


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## just friends

Box 2861: I am a 50 year old, gay man. I'm fairly attractive – so I'm told. I am looking for a young, Phillipine guy, or a young Asian or Chinese, just to be friends with. Not necessarily sex, just to do the getting together, and to do the visiting, that kind of thing.

Box 2962: This is Frost. I am 18 years old, and I happen to be Caucasian. I stand 5'11", midnight-blue, spiky hair, blue eyes, very good-looking. I am very energetic! I have a great personality! I like to have fun and party all the time! I am looking for party people who have great personalities and like to have fun, and are also very energetic.

## long term relationships

Box 1026: I am looking to meet a guy 19-35 for an ongoing relationship. I am pretty open-minded. I am just a very nice, passive, humung guy here. Looking to meet friends and possibly more. I am 5'7", 140lb, blond hair, blue/green eyes.

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relationship with a male, who would enjoy what I have to offer. I love to have a totally and fully shaved body, stiletto heels, nylons, lingerie, sexy clothes, homemade makeup, long nails, wigs.

## casual encounters

Box 2809: I am 5'10", 150lb, well-built. I am looking mostly always to travel. I am clean and discreet, and honest. I like cool, "smartie" contact, I like to massage and be massaged, very passionate. I like to view it, I like walks, and I am looking to have a really good time with guys who like to have a good time.

Box 1010: I am 43, 6', 220lb. Moderately hairy chest, reddish-brown hair, green eyes, moustache, 10" cock. I am looking to meet guys with at least 7" or more.

Box 1018: Good-looking Asian guy, 6'2", 180lb, looking for other good-looking, fit, young guys.

Box 1021: I'm Michael. Real simple guy. I am in my mid-30s, 5'10, 195lb, 48" chest, 32" waist, 18" arms. Smooth body, 7" uncut. Considered masculine, and very much a bottom. So that's the kind of

thing I am lookin' for. Oooh, receiving anal! Lookin' for one or more guys, well-hung – definitely over 8" would be good – who can entertain.

Box 2725: I'm a 23 year old, bi, submissive bottom, looking to entertain. Looking for dominant, older, aggressive tops. One guy, or preferably, group action. Love to suck cock, have a hot load of cum on my face and in my mouth, maybe get fucked. I am looking for as many tops as I can get, for that group action.

Box 2830: I'm Skylar and I am a single white male. I am 6', 125lb, I have blue eyes, and I am seeking a single white male who is 18-35, is honest and mature, and is seeking a longterm relationship, too.

Box 2753: I live on a small farm just south of Lamont. I am 5'10", brown hair, thick moustache, hazel/green eyes, moderately hairy body. It's not too far out of the city, and I give very good directions. It is easy to find your way to the farm. What

Box 2912: I am looking for young, sweet, submissive boys, 18-24. He must be slim or skinny, boyish, smooth, pretty boy, who wants to serve your master or daddy. I am 32, 5'10", 175lb, with short brown hair, hazel eyes, moderately hairy chest. Wanna play with

Box 2809: I am 5'10", 150lb, well-built. I am looking mostly always to travel. I am clean and discreet, and honest. I like cool, "smartie" contact, I like to massage and be massaged, very passionate. I like to view it, I like walks, and I am looking to have a really good time with guys who like to have a good time.

Box 1009: I am 43 years old, 6', 220lb, moderately hairy chest, reddish/brown hair and green eyes, moustache. I am looking to meet guys with at least 7" or more.

## bears, big men & their admirers

Box 2776: This is Scott. I'm a 35 year old, bi-curious male, 5'2", 110lb. Looking for a TV or TS, to have my first experience with.

## bisexuals

Box 1025: My name is James. I'm 45, white, attached, top, 5'8", 160lb, dark brown hair and eyes, smooth body. Clean-cut, clean-shaven, very clean and safe, discreet. I am about 8-1/2" cut, thick, and I am looking to get together with a slim, discreet bottom. Discretion is a must.

Box 2932: My name is Ron. I am 6', brown hair and eyes. I am 48, 6", cut, 290lb. I love to suck cock, I love to eat ass, and I just love pleasing guys.

## transgender

Box 2730: I'm a male in the Edmonton area, who is 6'3", 180, gets the dark hair and the green eyes. I am dominant, and I am a top. I am looking for TVs,

TSs, couples, submissive cross-dressers. I can entertain or travel. I've got 7-1/2" cut, nice thick mushroom head.

Box 2819: Damon. I'm 25 and I'm looking for another male between 18-25, preferably blond, to get together for dumb encounters. I can entertain in the bedroom. Preferably smooth.

Box 2823: I'm looking for slim guys. I'm 5'11", 165lb, and I'm

looking for slim, bi white guys (Asian guys are very welcome). Want 'em for a dis-

creet relationship. I like anything.

Box 2887: My name is Terry. Tall, dark, and sexy, 6'4", 200lb, and I am lookin' for casual encounters. I'm hot. I prefer someone who is dominating. I wanna be dominated.

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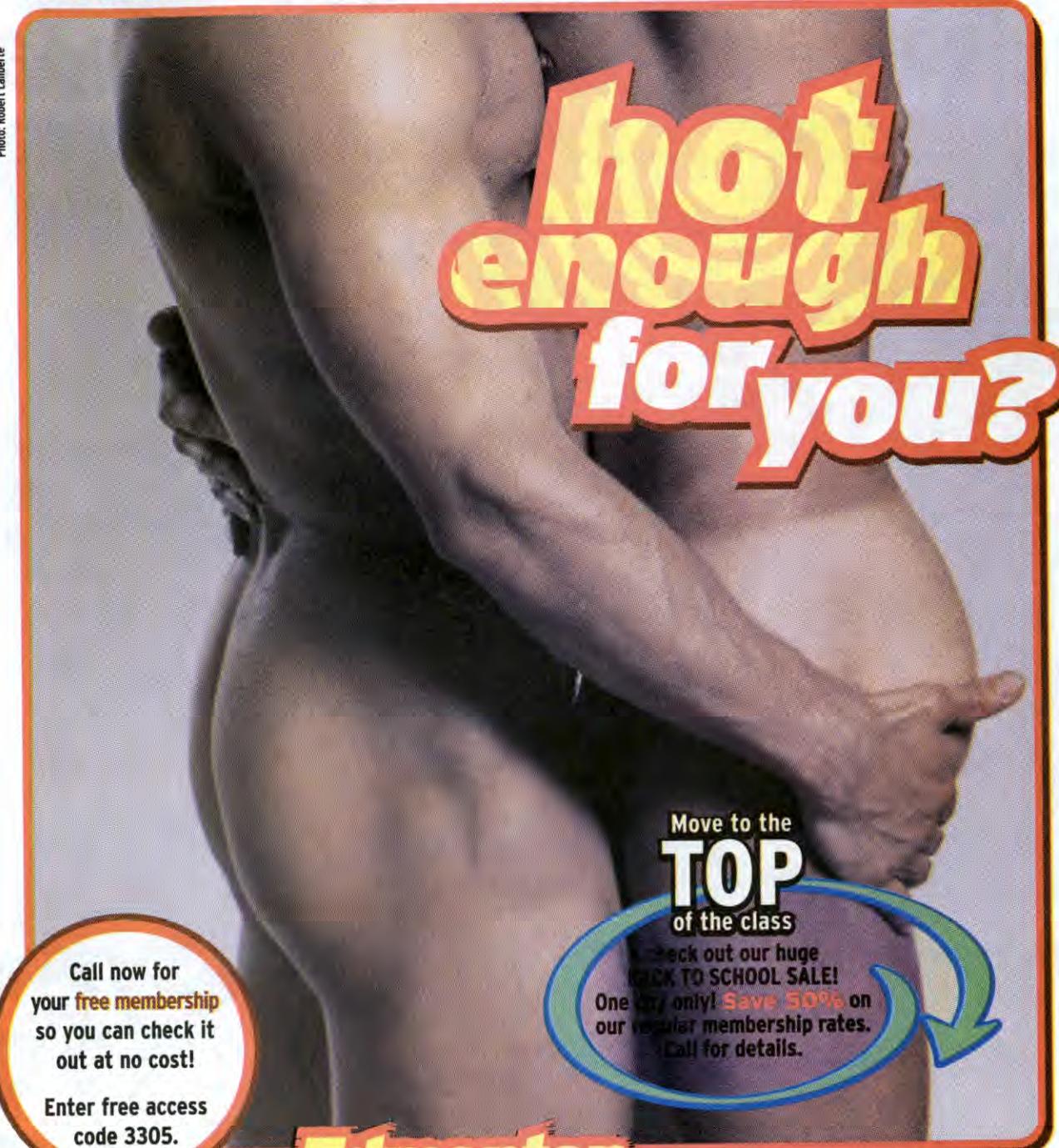
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DATE : 22/04/2024